

CONTENTS

List of Tables and Figures ix

Introduction 1
SURINDER S. JODHKA

SECTION I

Village Society: Methods and Perspectives

- Introduction 23
1. Village Studies, Participant Observation and Social Science Research in India 25
M. N. SRINIVAS
2. The Tribulations of Fieldwork 35
ANDRÉ BÉTEILLE
3. Nation and Village 44
Images of Rural India in Gandhi, Nehru and Ambedkar
SURINDER S. JODHKA

SECTION II

Social and Cultural Life

- Introduction 67
4. Inclusive View of Religion 69
A Rural Discourse in Uttar Pradesh
G. K. LIETEN
5. Modernisation and Rural Stratification 82
An Application at the Micro-Level
K. L. SHARMA

6. **The Untouchable Present** 93
Everyday Life of Musahars in North Bihar
 MUKUL SHARMA
7. **New Technology and Traditional Rural Institutions** 103
Case of Jajmani Relations in Karnataka
 G. K. KARANTH
8. **Changing Religious Practices** 118
Their Relationship to Secular Power in a Rajasthan Village
 PARTAP C. AGGARWAL
9. **Institutions and Incentives in a Garhwal Village** 128
Common Property Regimes in Traditional Societies
 JISHNU DAS

SECTION III

Social, Economic and Political Processes

- Introduction 143
10. **Taking Dung-Work Seriously** 145
Women's Work and Rural Development in North India
 ROGER JEFFERY, PATRICIA JEFFERY AND ANDREW LYON
11. **Coping with Male Migration** 157
 LEELA GULATI
12. **Politicisation of Dalits and Most Backward Castes** 170
*Study of Social Conflict and Political Preferences
 in Four Villages of Meerut District*
 SUDHA PAI AND JAGPAL SINGH
13. **Emergence of Backward Castes in South Telangana** 181
Agrarian Change and Grass Roots Politics
 ANIL KUMAR VADDIRAJU

SECTION IV

Perspectives on Change

- Introduction 195
14. **Whither the Indian Village** 197
Culture and Agriculture in 'Rural' India
 DIPANKAR GUPTA

15. Land, Labour and Caste Politics in Rural
Tamil Nadu in the Twentieth Century 210
Iruvelpattu 1916–2008
JOHN HARRISS, J. JEYARANJAN AND K. NAGARAJ
16. Common Property Resources and Rural Poor
in Dry Regions of India 232
N. S. JODHA
- List of Authors* 251